Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 EB-11 SCEM-02 SCI-06 INT-08

COME-00 OMB-01 CIEP-02 TRSE-00 ACDA-19 NIC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 IO-13 RSR-01 /169 W

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R 311105Z AUG 73 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7733 INFO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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CORRECTED COPY (PARA 2.)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG, RP, RO, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET OIL EXPLORATION EXPERTS TO VISIT PHILIPPINES

BEGIN SUMMARY: GOP HAS ANNOUNCED FORTHCOMING VISIT OF A COMBINED TRADE AND TECHNICAL MISSION FROM SIVIET UNION, INCLUDING OIL EXPLORATION EXPERTS. PRESS ACCOUNTS STATE GOP SEES THIS AS INDICATIVE OF SOVIET WILLINGNESS TO UNDERTAKE PROGRAM OF OIL EXPLORATION IN PHILIPPINES. THIS WOULD BE SECOND GROUP OF OIL EXPERTS TO VISIT PHILIPPINES FROM EASTERN EUROPE. ROMANIA SENT GROUP OF TECHNICIANS IN JUNE 1973 FOLLOWING VISIT BUCHAREST BY AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES SECRETARY TANCO. AUGUST 30 TIMES JOURNAL EDITORIAL SAID SOVIET INTEREST COULD BE CATALYST TO INDUCE OTHERS WHO, PAPER SAYS, HAVE BEEN "DRAGGING THEIR FEET", TO ACCELERATE EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES. END SUMMARY.

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QM LOCAL PRESS AUGUST 29 FEATURED GOP ANNOUNCEMENT

THAT SOVIET UNION WAS SENDING TRADE DELEGATION TO MANILA WHICH WOULD INCLUDE OFFICIALS INTERESTED IN OIL EXPLORATION. DATES FOR VISIT WERE NOT GIVEN. ACCORDING TO PRESS, MISSION IS RESULT OF INITIATIVE TAKEN BY MRS. MARCOS DURING HER VISIT TO MOSCOW EARLY 1972.

2. PRESS LISTED MEMBERS OF GROUP AS:

V.N. YAKUBENOK, STATE COMMITTEE FOR EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

A.P. SLAPOGUZOW, GEOPHYSICIST

F.K. ZHADCHENKO, GEOLOGIST

N.J. AGOFONOV, STATE COMMITTEE FOR EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

D.D. PANKRATOV, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

3. THIS WOULD BE SECOND "OIL EXPLORATION" MISSION FROM EASTERN TO ERUOPE TO VISIT PHILIPPINES THIS YEAR. IN JUNE, FOLLOWING VISIT OF SEC. TANCO TO BUCHAREST, SMALL GROUP OF ROMANIAN TECHNICIANS VISITED MANILA.WHILE HERE GROUP CONSULTED WITH PETROLEUM BOARD OF WHICH TANCO IS CHAIRMAN AS WELL AS PHILIPPINE PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION (PPA), MEMBERS OF WHICH ARE PETROLEUM EXPLORATION CONCESSION HOLDERS. AS RESULT ROMANIAN VISIT, THREE MEMBERS OF PPA REPORTEDLY PLANNING TRIP TO BUCHAREST BUT NO EVIDENCE THAT ANY INTER-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT REACHED.

4. COMMENT. TIMES JOURNAL EDITORIAL SAID SOVIET
PARTICIPATION WAS WELCOME BECAUSE "IF FOUND, (OIL)
WILL NOT BE EXPLOITED FOR PROFIT", APPARENTLY INDIRECT
REFERENCE TO LOCAL AMERICAN -DOMINATED OIL INDUSTRY AND
CONTINUING PROBLEM OF PETROLEUM PRICES. IN ADDITION TO
TECHNICAL SERVICES AND ADVICE GOP WOULD GAIN FROM
SOURCE INDEPENDENT OF US AND WESTERN OIL COMPANIES, GOP
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MAY WANT TO SOUND OUT POSSIBILITY OF CRUDE OIL SUPPLY FROM SOVIETS OR SOVIET-CONTROLLED SOURCES FOR FILOIL REFINERY RECENTLY ACQUIRED BY GOP FROM GULF.

AS FOR "OTHER" EXPLORATION, CHEVRON SCHEDULED BEGIN DRILLING OFF SW TIP OF PALAWAN EARLY SEPTEMBER AND SUPERIOR, USING SAME DRILLING RIG IN WESTERN SULU SEA IMMEDIATELY AFTER FIRST CHEVRON WELL COMPLETED.

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Subject: SOVIET OIL EXPLORATION EXPERTS TO VISIT PHILIPPINES BEGIN SUMMARY: GOP HAS ANNOUNCED FORTHCOMING VISIT

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